



Wisconsin - Tart Cherries

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Increase in Tart Cherry Production

Wisconsin's tart cherry production for 2011 is forecast at 8.7 million pounds. If realized, this will be a 53 percent increase from last year's production. Most cherry trees in Wisconsin survived the winter with little or no winter damage. A cool spring, coupled with heavy rains led to a later and longer bloom. However, most trees pulled through those conditions with limited problems.

United States tart cherry production is forecast at 266 million pounds, up 40 percent from the 2010 production. Michigan, the largest producing State, expects a larger crop than last year. Development of the crop was behind normal due to below average spring temperatures. The bloom was reported to be excellent despite cool, wet conditions which hampered pollination in many locations. Washington experienced cold weather and wet conditions in the spring. Frost was a problem during bloom and conditions were less than optimal for pollination. Utah production is expected to be above last year despite reports of wind damage. Maturation of the cherries was reported to be uneven with some cherries turning yellow. New York growers are expecting record low production. Lake Ontario growers reported that excessive rain and lack of pollination affected the production potential this year. The Finger Lakes area was impacted by heavy snowfall in the winter and cold temperatures in the spring.

Tart Cherry Production

State	2009	2010	2011*
	Million pounds		
WI	10.9	5.7	8.7
MI	266.0	135.0	210.0
NY	11.2	7.8	6.5
OR	3.2	1.2	1.7
PA	3.9	2.3	3.2
UT	47.0	23.0	24.0
WA	16.7	15.4	12.0
US	358.9	190.4	266.1

*Forecast. Source: USDA, NASS, WI FO